FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope all of you are ready for this envelope full of important Virginia Watercolor Society information and opportunities.

First of all, it’s time to renew your membership. The renewal deadline is January 31st but doing it NOW will ensure you do not forget. Membership is required to enter the annual exhibition planned for May 2015 in Harrisonburg. Remember to send in with your check the form printed on the back of this newsletter, making any necessary changes to your contact information. Your correct email address is extremely important. The next Waterlogue will be sent electronically — that is, you will receive an email from VWS letting you know that Waterlogue # 123 has been posted on the VWS website. Karen Schwartz, our “website wizard”, has asked that you make certain that you “allow” VWS communications so that the notification does not go to a spam folder. Karen can help if you have questions.

The second important item in this mailing is the 2015 show prospectus. I know I’ve addressed this in the past, but READ THE PROSPECTUS CAREFULLY! The board has tried to clarify what constitutes an acceptable entry, particularly in terms of resource material used, the date it was painted and materials used. Don’t eliminate yourself by failing to follow directions.

Finally I’m happy to report that Sharon Boyle has offered to assume some of the duties of Waterlogue Editor. She has published other organizations’ newsletters so comes to us with experience. Pam Ogden will continue to collect and edit the next editions until her official, well earned retirement in May. Sharon will take that information and format it for the website. I’m also hoping she will allow herself to be nominated to take over as Editor at the AGM in Harrisonburg. I can’t thank Pam enough for her years of service to Virginia Watercolor Society and I welcome the opportunity to work with Sharon and thank her for stepping forward.

Well, our exhibition chair Brenda Hounshell has a lot of information on the VWS 2015 Exhibition in Harrisonburg, so keep reading. Plan now to join us for the workshop and show weekend — and thanks for listening.

Gwendolyn Bragg, President Virginia Watercolor Society
gwenbragg@aol.com

Help us as we transition to an email newsletter!

Make sure your email address is on file with VWS and update it if necessary
Please add the following to your address book and to your accepted/trusted/unblocked email list:

virginiawatercolorsociety@gmail.com
VAWCS@virginiawatercolorsociety.org
webmaster@virginiawatercolorsociety.org
membership@virginiawatercolorsociety.org
or
“any email from @virginiawatercolorsociety.org”

We suggest testing each of the addresses by sending a message to each of these addresses to confirm your email address with the membership chair. Please include your name in the message and that you are confirming your email address. Reminder! VWS does not share email lists and only use your email for VWS communications.
FROM THE EXHIBITION CHAIR

Hello from Harrisonburg! I hope everyone is enjoying the natural beauty provided during this beautiful time of year across the state of Virginia. We are fortunate to be surrounded with such amazing inspiration for all of our creative outlets.

Meanwhile, meetings continue to keep the planning for our 2015 Annual Exhibition moving along. I have had the pleasure of meeting with a variety of well organized and helpful individuals at James Madison University. Staff members in Duke Hall, the Festival Center and the Events Planning departments have been very helpful and informative.

Our workshop team, Peg Sheridan and Lois Whitecotton, have met with the workshop venue and firmed up our setup needs and reviewed facility capabilities. The First Presbyterian Church has helped our local group, The Shenandoah Valley Watercolor Society, host several workshops over the years and they are able to draw on these experiences to help us make our VWS workshop a great success. Mark Mehaffey has finalized his supply list. It looks very interesting! Members are starting to ask questions and inquire about the workshop details. It promises to be a good one, especially with Mark as our leader! Mark has also agreed to offer a demonstration on Saturday afternoon after his gallery talk. If you are unable to attend his workshop but would like to hear him discuss his techniques, this demonstration is a great way to glean information from Mark on his approach to painting on a variety of surfaces. Look for this sign up section on your Events Registration form to take advantage of his demonstration on Saturday afternoon.

The Gallery Court area in front of the Duke Hall Gallery will be the site of our Opening Reception Friday evening and our Annual Business Meeting and Juror Talk on Saturday

The Harrisonburg and Rockingham County areas have a variety of support organizations for the visual and performing arts. Being designated an Arts and Cultural District has helped the area develop a network of support for all facets of the art community. The Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance organization works diligently to provide a variety of activities throughout the year for residents to enjoy. A recent example is “Artery”, a community art piece. A local artist had the idea to have a canvas available to any area artist who may want to contribute to the painting. Anyone interested could stop by at designated times and paint on the piece. Once completed an auction was held to sell the piece to the highest bidder to raise additional funds for the organization. It has been a very successful idea and one of many developed by the HDR organization.

Harrisonburg also has the Arts Council of the Valley at www.valleyarts.org. This organization supports creative endeavors by providing grant money to encourage people in the community to develop and present their ideas for consideration. There is a theatre and an art gallery available to the Council to help provide outlets for visual and performing art opportunities for the community. The Arts Council is also the sponsor for our First Fridays events in the Harrisonburg downtown area. Both of these organizations have agreed to use the communication tools available to them to “get the word out” in our community about our 2015 Exhibition.
Gary Freeburg, Director of Duke Hall, explained how the channels in the ceiling can be used for moveable walls in this new space.

On a personal note, I recently finished up as Chairperson of our 2014 Shenandoah Valley Watercolor Society’s Annual Member’s Show. We have 106 pieces from our members hanging in the show until November 7th at VMRC here in Harrisonburg. We have had healthy sales with 17 pieces already sold. Our Society’s member’s show is in its 28th year and continues to receive great support from the community for our members.

We look forward to the compelling and inspiring work from all VWS artists who enter the 2015 show. Seeing the work in this dynamic new gallery space will be a thrill for our members and guests who visit the show.

Thank you to everyone and please contact me for any questions at any time.

See you in 2015!

Paint like there’s no tomorrow!

Brenda Hounshell, Exhibition Chair
brendaandtom@msn.com

IN MEMORIAM

Robert B. Carter, Jr., beloved member of VWS for over 30 years, died February 10, 2014. Bobby was a native Virginian, born March 11, 1921. He was predeceased by his wife Lucretia S. Carter and their son, Robert B. Carter III. Three grandchildren and a great grandson survive. I met Bobby years ago at local art shows he did annually. Unfailingly helpful in every way, he was the perfect mentor, together with his childhood friend John Stengel and his wife, Letah. Doing art shows and watching those two friends was an inspiration in humor and perseverance. Bobby studied at RPI and the University of Richmond. In his class at RPI were Adelaide and John Will Creasy, Nell Blaine and Kathleen Bullard. There were some great stories. Bobby was a fine watercolorist, having studied with some super, colorful instructors including Edgar Whitney. His own distinctive style yielded hundreds of paintings now in permanent collections, including the Federal Reserve, Ethyl Corporation, Philip Morris, Reynolds Metals and also, in private collections. He exhibited many times in the VWS exhibitions and won Best in Show in 1988. Together with John Stengel and Baxter Perkinson, we helped Richmond host the 1989 VWS Exhibition. Generous, exceptionally prolific, a master at wet in wet, he is missed and will be remembered as a legendary dean of watercolor.

Eleanor Cox, Midlothian
August 14, 2014

Opportunities

Alice Kale of Alexandria will lead a workshop at the La Romita School of Art in Umbria, Italy from July 5 - 19, 2015. All mediums, as well as non-painters, are welcome. Students will be housed in an exquisitely renovated 16th c. monastery in the foothills of the Apennine Mountains and will take day trips to painting sites in Umbria, enjoy studio work in La Romita’s frescoed chapel, and have two all-day excursions to historic towns nearby, such as Assisi and Orvieto. The trip includes transportation to and from the airport, all ground transportation, lodging, and 3 meals a day (with wine at dinner). Alice also teaches an ongoing drop-in watercolor class in Alexandria. For more information visit alicekekale.com, laromita.org, or call Alice on 703-683-3988.

CREASY-JOHNSON FUND

Susan Stuller would like to remind members to please apply for grants from the Creasy-Johnson Fund. The Creasy-Johnson Fund received no applicants this past year. Visit the VWS website for information or contact Susan at susan.stuller@comcast.net.
“It’s all in how you arrange the thing….the careful balance of the design is the motion.”

Andrew Wyeth

The National Gallery of Art is currently showing Andrew Wyeth: Looking Out, Looking In until November 30th. The show gathers together – for the first time – a select group of Wyeth's images of windows, a subject he used more than three hundred times in his work. Included in the exhibition are watercolor studies as well as his tempera paintings. It is a beautiful exhibition, try to see it if you can!

Splashings

Please submit news items for Splashings to Pam Ogden, Editor, 615 Academy Street, Salem, VA 24153 OR email momog@aol.com.

Nancy Newhard/Clifton Forge won Best in Show at Lynchburg Art Club’s annual art exhibit in September.

Susan Stuller/Midlothian has won the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society Award in the Philadelphia International Works on Paper Exhibition. She also had paintings accepted in the Kentucky Watercolor Society National Exhibition and Keystone National Exhibition and won Sixth Place for one of them.

Suzanne Davis Ross/Roanoke was awarded Second Place in Watercolor for “Coastal Bell” at Best Pick Art Show, West Lake Library at Smith Mountain Lake. She and her daughter, Michele Walker/Blacksburg, exhibited together at the Franklin County main branch Library gallery in Rocky Mount in December, 2013 and also at St. John’s Church in Roanoke in November, 2013.

Jane Iten/Ridgeway and Robin Poteet/Salem are featured in the video “Plein Air Voices” produced and narrated by Suzanne Ross. Copies are available in the Franklin County Library System.

Gari Stephenson/Roanoke won Best in Show at the annual Central Virginia Watercolor Guild’s show in September at the McGuffey. Other VWS winners were Nancy Stark/Roanoke, Sharon Boyle/Dumfries, Pat Cook/Waynesboro, Dorothy Grebos/Williamsburg, Sally Mook/Blacksburg, Roseanne Moon/Salem, Elaine Nunnally/Leesburg, Janice Sayles/Hardy, Chee Ricketts/Stanardsville and Susan Rosen/Staunton.

Jane Winders Frank/Roanoke won an Award of Merit for her painting “Storm over Ocean” at the Bowers Center National Juried Exhibition, Bedford in September. Perri Mason/Bedford had her painting “Horse Whisperer” juried into the same exhibit.

UPCOMING DEADLINES !!!

January 7th, 2015 – Submissions for Waterlogue #123
January 31st, 2015 – Deadline for annual Society dues, $30 (no later than 2/13/15)
February 13th, 2015 – Deadline for Entries for 2015 Exhibition
April 13th, 2015 – Deadline for Workshop and Event registration